



## **‘nPlay Executive Director Leads Stanfield Elementary School to it’s First USDA Gold with Distinction Honor in the History of Arizona**

*Arizona Cardinals Star Michael Floyd and USDA Administrator Will Celebrate With Stanfield Elementary as They Are Awarded For Rare Achievement in Nutrition and Physical Education*

**WHO:** The USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), the Arizona Department of Education and the ‘nPlay Foundation, are proud to announce that Arizona’s Stanfield Elementary School has reached the Gold with Distinction level, the highest possible award given for the [HealthierUS School Challenge](#) (HUSSC). Led by Stanfield Principal and ‘nPlay Executive Director Dr. Chris Lineberry, Stanfield Elementary is the first school in Arizona history to achieve the honor, which is given to schools that meet the highest nutrition and physical education standards on a daily basis.

“I’m extremely proud of my team here at Stanfield Elementary. Our desire to meet the USDA-FNS nutritional guidelines and get the students more active on a daily basis has helped make our school healthier and created a more productive educational environment,” said Dr. Lineberry. “Through my work with ‘nPlay I hope to help more schools successfully meet the criteria of the HUSSC, so they can experience the same positive results we have had at Stanfield.”

**WHAT:** On May 7<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM, Arizona Cardinals wide receiver and ‘nPlay athlete ambassador Michael Floyd will join USDA-FNS Administrator Audrey Rowe at the school to celebrate the achievement. At the event, Floyd and HOPSports Founder Tom Root will lead the students in a demonstration of the HOPSports Brain Breaks system, a global physical activity solution for schools that is being used in every state in the US and over 25 countries internationally. The school will also be presented their Gold with Distinction award and will receive a \$7,500 cash prize for reaching this level of excellence.

“USDA applauds Dr. Lineberry’s passion and community approach to creating a healthy environment at Stanfield Elementary – providing great looking, tasty and nutritious breakfasts and lunches, combined with physical activity during the school day. Stanfield school administrators, food service professionals, teachers, and parents are committed to teaching students the value of a healthy-eating lifestyle,” said Administrator Audrey Rowe. “Their efforts have led to measureable results: Every school day more than 97 percent of the students at Stanfield eat a healthy lunch prepared in the school cafeteria.”



Since its inception in 2004, only 375 out of 100,000 schools nationally have achieved the rare Gold with Distinction award. Under Dr. Lineberry's leadership and program, Stanfield Elementary reached Gold with Distinction within a year. Dr. Lineberry also serves as Executive Director of the 'nPlay Foundation, a non-profit formed to combat childhood obesity. The organization is partnered with the USDA-FNS to help promote the HUSSC, and is actively working to help more schools implement Dr. Lineberry's program to meet the criteria of the program.

**WHEN:** May 7, 2015 - 10AM – 12PM

**WHERE:** Stanfield Elementary School  
515 S Stanfield Rd, Stanfield, AZ 85172

**WHY:** The HealthierUS School Challenge is a voluntary certification initiative recognizing those schools enrolled in [Team Nutrition](#) that have created healthier school environments through promotion of nutrition and physical activity. In 2010, First Lady Michelle Obama introduced [Let's Move!](#), incorporating HUSSC into her campaign to raise a healthier generation of kids. At that time, monetary incentive awards became available for each HUSSC award level.

USDA's Food and Nutrition Service oversees the administration of 15 nutrition assistance programs that work in concert to form a national safety net against hunger. Learn more by visiting [www.fns.usda.gov](http://www.fns.usda.gov).

#### **About 'nPLAY**

'nPlay is a 501c3 with over 40 professional athletes, both current and retired, united to improve our children's physical health on a daily basis. Led by stars Grant Hill, Jennie Finch, Andre Ward and Gary Player, this group of athletes has committed to helping create opportunities for kids to play and be active on a daily basis. Working in partnership with Principals and teachers, 'nPlay works directly with schools and help them find ways to make physical education, physical activity and healthy eating a core component of every students' day.

**CONTACT:** Gina Torres, GTM, (646) 789-6270, [GTorresMedia@gmail.com](mailto:GTorresMedia@gmail.com) -or- USDA  
FNS Public Affairs Office (415) 705-1311

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